

Remarks

Applicants have canceled claims 2, 10 and 19, and have amended claims 1, 9 and 17 to incorporate the limitations of those canceled claims, thereby simplifying the issues and presenting the remaining claims in better form for appeal. Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 2, 2004.

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